THE YEAR.

CIRCUIT OF THE WORLD'S HISTORY.

A PERIOD OF DISTRUST AND DEPRESSION-PRINCI PAL EVENTS OF A DISAGREFABLE YEAR. 1883 has been a year of universal distrust, terrible catastrophes and malignant tendencies; In the United States uncertainty respecting the effects of tariff changes and general apprehension of an approaching panie have tended to produce commercial depression. In Great Britain legislation has been retarded by vexatious obstruction and unscrupulous partisanship, and while criminal agencies have been suppressed in Ireland and agrarian reforms have been judiciously carried out, there has been pacification without reconciliation. Dynamite plots have followed assassination; the political revolt has extended with sullen persistence. France, alarmed by the instability of its Ministries, has armed itself in nervous trepidation against helpless princes and raving Socialists, and sought to regain its prestige at the ends of the earth. Germany, not content with the Austrian alliance, has multiplied its precautions against a French war of revenge by courting a closer understanding with Italy and Spain. The Czar has been crowned, but a feeling of uneasiness pervades Russia. The Balkan principalities distrust all foreign alliances, and are disposed to depend upon their own resources. Even in Australia there is a morbid dread of piratical schemes of aggression. A year of profound

THE UNITED STATES.

and apprehension.

peace, 1883, has also been a period of unrest

1883 was the tenth year from the last financial crisis and was ominous on that account, a belief in the cyclical movement of panies being one of the accepted traditions of American trade. As the year advanced many disquieting elements appeared in business circles. There were indications of overproduction in manufacturing, and prostration of the iron, cotton and woollen industries; there were numerous failures, bank embarrassments and betrayals of trust; there was a collapse of the wheat and lard speculation; and there were illtimed combinations of labor aiming to make production more costly, the most remarkable strike taking the form of a general embargo upon the transaction and dispatch of business, when 12,000 telegraph operators deserted their instruments on July 19. The year has closed without the fulfilment of the gloomy forebodings to which these While distrust still prevails, causes gave rise. there is an improved feeling in the business community The result is due largely the excellence of the crops, by which the export trade has profited, and also the great surplus of National revenue, which has been used for the redemption of bonds. That surplus amounted to over \$134,000,000 during the year ending July 1, and is estimated at \$80,000,000 for the current fiscal year, with a strong probability of its exceeding that amount, notwithstanding the immense reductions in customs and internal taxes. Public confidence has also been strengthened by the complete failure of the labor combinations, notably that of the telegraph operators. WORK OF THE LAST CONGRESS.

Political causes have not been without their effect upon the commercial situation. The houses of Congress met on the second day of the year with fifty-one working days at their disposal and three great measures to be enacted. The first was the Civil Service bill, which had already passed the Senate. The Pendleton bill had been prepared by the Civil Service Reformers themselves, and there was a general disposition, at least among Republi-cans, to give them what they wanted and to hold them responsible for the results. The bill passed the House on January 4, by a vote of 155 to 47, the minority including 7 Republicans and 40 Democrats. The President appointed Dorman B Eaton, a representative Civil Service Reformer, as the head of the Commission. A series of rules was prepared by the Commission and the act went into effect on July 16, being applicable to the classified clerkships in the executive departments at Washington, and to eleven customs districts and twenty-three post offices. The vacancies in filled in anticipation of the new system. In the departments at Washington the act is generally pronounced efficient and beneficial. A similar measure was passed at the last session of the New-The revision of the tariff and the reduction of in-

ternal taxation were the other great measures upon which Congress was called upon to act. The report of the Tariff Commission was made the basis for committee action in each chamber. The reductions proposed by the House Committee were smaller than those recommended by the Senate Committee. On February 19 the weaker measure failed to receive a two-thirds vote in the House, and consequently the Senate bill was made the ground of action by a conference committee. The latter measure passed the Senate on February 20, 33 out of 34 Republicans voting for it, with Senator Davis, of Illinois, and 8 out of 26 Democrats. The Democrats gave abundant evidence of the insincerity of their attempts to reduce taxation, but did not venture to defeat the measure outright. The Tariff and Tax bill providing for a reduction of tariffduties and internal taxation to the amount of \$75,000,000 a year, was reported from the conference committee in March, and passed the House by a vote of 152 to 116, 133 Republicans and 19 Democrats contributing the majority, and 11 Republicans and 105 Democrats the minority. The Tariff act went into effect on July 1.

In addition to these great measures, Congress reduced the rates of postage from three to two cents, the act taking effect on October 1. Bills relating to postal notes and the return of the Japanese indemnity were also passed, the session being one of the most fruitful in practical legislation ever held at Washington. Among the defeated measures was the Shipping act, which was amended in the Senate and then rejected because the Demo-cratic Representatives would not contribute the few votes required for a quorum. The Presidential Succession bill, the National Bankruptey act, and the bills prohibiting the collection of political assessments and creating an intermediate court of appeal also failed.

POLITICAL MOVEMENTS. Notwithstanding the excellent record of the Republican majority in Congress, the October election in Ohio resulted in a Democratic triumph. General apathy and the temperance question were responsible for the Republican defeat. The majority against the proposed amendment prohibiting "the manufacture of and traffle in intoxicating liquors to be used as a beverage" was 70,000. The Democratic majority exceeded 10,000. This result, while attributable partly to the temperance agitation, increased the probability that a Democratic Congress would take up the Tariff act at the present session and make radical changes in the direction of Free Trade. The election of an avowed Free Trader as Speaker over a candidate committed to a policy of inaction respecting the tariff tended to strengthen this belief. Thile a majority of the Committee of Ways and Means appointed by Speaker Carlisle is made up of

Means appointed by Speaker Carlisle is made up of Free Traders and Revenue Reformers, and a deliberate attempt to scale down the tariff schedules may be expected before the close of another session, it is not probable that there will be any legislation of this nature pending the Presidential election. When the restraints imposed by political caution and partisan greed are removed, the Democrats may renture to menace the business interests of the country with a radical measure of Free Trade.

The November elections have indicated, however, that the Republicans will be able to make a successful stand against tariff revolution and sectional politics. The reversal of a Democratic majority of over 192,000 in New-York, and the election of a Republican Legislature and Secretary of State, was an earnest of what the party would be expected to do in a Presidential year when the business interests of the country should be imperilled by Democratic success. The defeat of Governor Business another indication of a presidential was another indication of a president investigation.

turned to the Republican line, and there were similar gains in other States. Senator Mahone's party was defeated in Virginia, a serious race conflict at Danylle disclosing the means whereby the negro vote had been coereed. The general offiset of the November elections was to offset the Democratic victory in Ohio and to make the next Presidential canvass a close contest. Governor Butler's defeat has removed him from the list of Democratic candidates, and Governor Cleveland's administration, while efficient and independent, has not improved his chances for the Presidency, his quarrel with Tammany and his lack of political discretion having caused dissensions in the party. On the Republican side Mr. Blaine has persistently asserted that he has permanently withdrawn from public life. President Arthur, whose claims upon the party for a renomination have been strengthened by a year of admirable administration, is disposed to spend the surplus of the revenues in rebuilding the Navy and in creating an adequate system of coast defences. Mr. Blaine, while disapproving of the Pennsylvania proposition to divide the surplus among the States in proportion to population, has made an ingenious plea in favor of placing the whiskey tax collected by Federal officials at the disposal of the States to be applied to the reduction of local taxation. The Cabinet vacancy caused by the death of Postmaster-General Howe was satisfactorily filled by Judge Waiter Q. Gresham.

The year has been characterized by many miscar-A DISAGREEABLE YEAR.

The year has been characterized by many miscarriages of public justice. The Star Route trials ended in June with the acquittal of the defendants, the proceedings having occupied six months. The acquittal of netorious murderers, such as Dukes in Pennsylvania (afterwards slain by his victim's son), Dunn in Chicago and Thompson in Kentucky have been scandalous judicial failures. The dealings of Western State authorities with public outlaws, and the acquittal of Frank James, have been equally discreditable. To these and many other crim inal episodes-among them the default of the State Treasurer of Tennessee in \$480,the State Treasurer of Tennessee in \$480,000—The Tenbure has added a chapter of municipal extravagance, inefficiency, and connivance with fraud in the conduct of public works in New-York City. There have been many bright incidents in the annals of 1883, such as the opening of the Brooklyn Bridge and the Northern Pacinc Railroad; the industrial exhibitions at Boston and Louisville; the improved shooting of the American ritemen at the English ranges; the good work of the scientific expedition sent to Caroline Island to observe the total colipse of the sun; the adoption of a new system of standard time; the patriotic observance of Evacuation day; the honors paid to the ashes of John Howard Payne; the visits of Lord Coleridge, Matthew Arnold, Henry Irving and other distinguished Englishmen to America; and the success of Edwin Booth in Germany and Austria. But taken as a whole 1883 has been a peculiarly disagreeable year, with its premonitions of commercial disaster and its long catalogue of actual horrors, including the burning of the Newhall House in Milwankee; the destruction of many hotels and theatres; the mining accident at Braidwood, Illinois; the tornadoes which have wrought destruction in Minnesota and elsewhere; the sinking of the Cimbria on its voyage to New-York; the wreck of the Proteus and the lamentable failure to provide for the safety of the Greely colony; the great storm of the Grand Bank of Newfoundland; and the disastrous floods which have devastated the Ohio Valley. 000-THE TRIBUNE has added a chapter

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Houses of Parliament assembled on February 15, Lord Hartington being the nominal head of the Ministry, as Mr. Gladstone was recruiting his health in Cannes. In the Queen's speech the Tenants' Compensation acts were substituted for the County Government bill, and in Cabinet Council precedence was given to them and to the Corrupt Practi-ces bill over the London Government bill. The opening debates were dull and lifeless, the address being discussed eleven nights. From the outset the Government were exposed to vex-ations tactics and time was systematically wasted. It was a month before the legislative work of the session was taken up, and at the Whitsuntide re-cess the Explosives bill was the only measure which had been passed, with the exception of three money bills and the annual army bill. The Affirmation bill had been debated night after night, and finally defeated on the second reading, notwithstanding Mr. Gladstone's unanswerable speech. The Government had also been discredited by its neutrality respecting important questions, and the Radicals had shown signs of open revolt.

Notwithstanding this unfortunate beginning, the ession ended with a remarkable record of legislative activity. When Parliament was prorogued or August 25, the two agricultural bills had been passed, with the Corrupt Practicesbill and the Bankruptey. with the Corrapt Fractices of Mational Debt and Irish
Patents, Redemption of National Debt and Irish
Whenever financial matters should be discussed.
Frameways and Emigration Acts. Only one important measure mentioned in the Queen's speech trol and declined the presidency of the reformed been dropped-the London Government bill, The closing week of the session witnessed a futile attempt on the part of the Lords to defeat by amendments the English and Scotch Agricultural bills. These measures were passed at the last moment, contrary to the advice of Lord Salisbury. The Irish Registration Act and the Scotch Local Government bill were rejected by the Lords. The act legalizing the marriage of a deceased wife's sister had been previously defeated in the same house by a narrow majority, and the act passed by the Commons for preventing pigeon shooting had also been rejected. The legislative results of the session were creditable to the Ministry, which had displayed firmness and patience when sorely harassed by the Conservatives and their Irish allies. The experiment of the Grand Committees had been satisfactorily tested, two complex measures, the Bankruptey and Patents Acts, having been carried through the House from the Committee on Trade.

PROGRESS IN IRELAND. The closing week of the session witnessed a futile at-

PROGRESS IN IRRLAND.

There has been a marked improvement in Irish affairs during the year. The authority of the Crown has been restored, assassins have been convicted and punished, lawlessness has been suppressed and agitators have been forced to abandon the use of criminal agencies. James Carey and twenty other men connected with the Invincibles, a band of assassins, were arrested in January and arraigned during the following month for the murders of Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke. Kavanagh, James Carey and others turned State's evidence and five of the chief conspirators, Brady, Curley, Fagan, Caffrey and Kelley were convicted and hanged. Others were convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for various terms, and the machinery of the courts was put in operation in other parts of Ireland, the authorities discriminating sharply between political and criminal offences, and only punishing those guilty of murder and lawlessness. Juries were not packed, prisoners were well defended, and judges were mapartial. James Carey, released in consequence of his testimony as an informer, and suffered to take refuge in South Africa, was assassinated by O'Donnell, an Irish-American, on board a British steamer near Port Elizabeth, on May 29. For this crime the assassin was hanged on December 17, after a fair and impartial trial in Lord Frederick Cavendish and Mr. Burke, by 29. For this crime the assassin was hanged December 17, after a fair and impartial trial in adon, the United States Government making indiscreet and futile attempt to obtain for him sensions.

on December 17, after a fair and impartial trial in London, the United States Government making an indiscreet and futile attempt to obtain for him a reprieve.

Irish-Americans had previously conspired in New-York against life and property in England. On March 15 a dynamite explosion occurred in the local government offices, London; in Glasgow a large gusometer was blown up, and other outrages were planned. On March 31 the detectives arrested six Irish-Americans on the charge of being implicated in dynamite plots. A dynamite factory was also discovered in Birmingham, and large quantities of nitro-glycerine were seized. One of the conspirators turned State's evidence, and gave a clear account of the plot formed in New-York, and on June 14 four of his accompliees were condemned to penal servitude for life. Similar trials occurred in Liverpool and Glasgow during July and December. There were two mysterions explosions on the Underground Railroad in London on October 30, but there was no direct evidence connecting them with Irish or Irish-American conspirators. The Explosives bill passed by Parliament, increasing the penalties for crime of this class, including the unlawful possession of explosives, has had the effect of interrupting the operations of dynamite-workers. While the dynamite plots have not cost a single life, Great Britam has had its share of the year's catalogue of ghastly horrors—the fatal launch of the Daphne on the Clyde and the slaughter of the children in Victoria Hall, Sunderland, being conspicuous among them.

Notwithstanding the carping criticisms of the Irish members, the Land Act is working satisfactorily. Steady progress has been made in the readjustment of rents and conditions of tenure, and, owing to an increased disposition to settle cases out of court, there is now a strong probability that the work of the Commission will be practically finished this year. The Arrears Act has also been applied with the most satisfactory results. The Commission had disposed of 134,000 cases by the 1st of J

MR. PARNELL'S TACTICS.

as to secure immediate rejection. Mr. Parnell also made large proposals in reference to land reform, to which Mr. Gladstone promptly refused to accede. Mr. Forster followed up the disclosures of the Dublin Invincibles with a violent attack upon the Irish leader, accusing him of having accepted authority and influence due to crimes and outrages without having condemned and denounced them. To this having condemned and denounced them. To this terrible charge Mr. Parnell made a sullen response. In August he savagely attacked the Crimes Act, asserting that it had been used "for the unexampled oppression of the humble people of the country." The migration proposals of the Irish party, notwithstanding this violent harangue, were incorporated by the Government in the Tramways bill, and when the Registration Act was rejected by the Lords, Mr. Gladstone promised a larger measure at the next session. Early in the year Mr. Healy was apparently intriguing for the leadership of the Irish party, for he contred a conspicuous form of political martyrdom, going to prison with Mr. Davitt and Mr. Quinn, when the Dublin authorities were auxious to have them offer ball—an imprisonment terminating in the course of a few months. Mr. Parnell's ascendancy has been steadily strengthened. The Irish conventions in Philadelphia, (April 27), following moderate counsels and repudiating the dynamite faction, adopted the scheme of re-organization with which he was identified. The Parnell Fund, raised by popular subscription in Great Britzin, America and Australia, encountered the resistance of the Pope and the clergy. Archbishop Croke having solicited subscriptions was sommoned to Rome and publicly rebuked; and the Pope issued a circular to the Irish bishops forbidding collections raised for the purpose of milaming public passions. The fund gradnally increased in the face of clerical resistance and amounted to nearly \$200,000 on December 11, when it was presented to Mr. Parnell. His speech in accepting it outlined the policy of his party, which is to persevere in political agitation, conscious of its ability to hold the balance of power between the Liberals and the Tories, if not to force the question of Irish home rule upon the attention of Parliament. terrible charge Mr. Parnell made a sullen response. Parliament.

The reputation acquired by the Liberal Ministry or legislative industry was temporarily impaired by the negotiation of an agreement with the Suez Canal Company, which provided for a reduction of tolls on a scale of increasing dividends and for the construction of a new canal, the Government lendng \$40,000,000 at 314 per cent. This agreement was condemned by the commercial bodies throughout the country and was finally withdrawn from Parliament. Sir Stafford Northcote, not content with the discredit with which the Government

Parliament. Sir Stafford Northeote, not content with the discredit with which the Government were overwhelmed, moved an indiscreet address to the Queen in opposition to M. de Lessep's claim to monopoly. This address was rejected by a vote of 282 to 183, the Parnellites fefraining from voting. The effect of this division was to restore the Government's political prestige. The agreement subsequently made by the Ship owners Association with M. de Lesseps tacitly accepted his claim to an absolute monopoly, but secured advantageous concessions in the immediate abolition of pilotage and the speedy reduction of tolls. The Liberal Government have thus been relieved from serious embarrassment.

The long vacation has been characterized by political activity throughout the United Kingdom. Sir Stafford Northcote made a tour in Ulster during which he succeeded in exciting sectional feeling and religious strife. Lord Salisbury with greater discretion demanded in England and Sectland the introduction of a bill for the redistribution of seats as the complement of the proposed Reform Bill, and emphasized the urgent need of improved dwellings for the lower classes in large cities. Mr. Parnell undertook a campaign in Ulster and incurred the hostility of the Orangemen, and the Governme was finally forced to preclaim meetings on both sides. The Liberals, meanwhile, have been displaying activity in England and Sectland, holding a remarkable conference at Leeds and giving direction to public opinion in favor of the forthcoming Reform bill. Mr. Chamberlain, Mr. Forster, Mr. Trevelyan and others have openly advocated the inclusion of Ireland in the scheme for the enlargement of country suffrage. Lord Hartington has shown signs of hostility to this policy, but it is evident that the Liberals cannot hope to pass a reform bill from the benefits of which Ireland shall be excluded. It is equally plain that Mr. Ghadstone cannot afford to face the contingencies of another season without having some measure of supreme importance on the strengt

remarks benefits of which Ireland shall be excluded. It is equally pian that Mr. Gladstone cannot reform to face the contingencies of another session without the cannot reform to face the contingencies of another session without the cannot reform the strength of which he can appeal to the country whenever the position of his Ministry is menaced.

BRITISH DEPENDENCIES.

Early in the year Lord Dafferin informed the Egyptian Ministry of Great Britain's withdrawal from the Dual Control and suggested the appointment of a financial adviser, who would not interfere with the public administration. The Control was abolished on January 11. The Khedive appointed Sir Auckland Colvin as his financial adviser and empowered him to attend Ministerial Councils whenever financial matters should be discussed. France protested against the abelition of the Control and declined the presidency of the reformed debt commission. Lord Granville in a note to the Powers outlined the entire pian of reconstruction in Egypt and offered a series of proposals relating to the freedom and neutralization of the Suez Canal. The Powers outlined the entire pian of reconstruction in Egypt and offered a series of proposals relating to the freedom and neutralization of the Suez Canal. The control of the Suez Canal. The support officers compronies and ulcamas, but granted ammesty to the superior officers compronies is did in the military revolt. The defeated regiments were either mustered out of service or scat to the Whits. Whits country to 6,64th the False Prombé. were either mustered out of service or sent to the White Nile country to fight the False Prophet. The formation of the Gendarmerie proceeded slowly, and it was not until the close of the year that Sir Evelyn Wood was prepared to recommend the withdrawal of the main portion of the British garrison. The home Government gave orders for a partial evacuation, but speedily countermanded them on receiving tidings of the destruction of the Egyptian army, numbering 10,000 men, by the Palse Prophet's forces, near Oueld in the White Nile country. This of the Egyptian army, numbering 10,000 men, by the False Prophet's forces, near Oneid in the White Nile country. This reverse, preceded and followed by defeats near Suakim, the Red Sea part of the Soudan, undermined the Khedive's authority in the African Empire, as vast as India, which Sir Samuel Baker and General Gordon had conquered for his predecessors on the throne. The Khedive threatens to resign, if that fantastic empire be cut off from Egypt. The Biritish Government have not disclosed their policy, but have ordered the garrison to halt. Laypt was exposed during the summer to an epidemic resembling Asiatic cholera, the mortality from it being very great owing to the unsantiary condition of the towns. The outbreak of the disease was at Damietia; thence it passed up the river to Cairo, ravaging many towns and villages, and finally it appeared in Alexandria. A German scientific commission headed by Dr. Koch assumes to have discovered the germ of this disease.

In January there was a rising of nativesin British India. Nanpur was plundered and Chaktala and Babra were threatened. The revolt did not prove serious. The attempt to subject Europeans to the criminal jurisdiction of native tribunals has excited bitter hostility. The Vicer oy has incurred extreme unpopularity, and has been forced by the agitation against the Ilbert bill to propose amendments to it which will render it inoperative. The Duke of Connaught, accepting an important military command in India, has been most cordially welcomed by Europeans and natives. The Amoer of Afghanistan has been granted a subsidy of \$600,000 a year by the Indian Government—a reversion to the principle adopted with Dost Mahommed.

The Queensland authorities undertook, in March, to annex Papua, or New-Guinea, on the plac of French menaces. The Colonial Office subsequently overruled this action. A conference of Australian legislative delegates held at Sydney, New-South Wales, passed a resolution favoring the formation of a federal council, empowered to deal with all matter

Manitoba.

Cetewayo, restored to his throne and placed under the tutelage of a British Resident, without being allowed adequate means of arming his subjects, speedily met with a croshing defeat. The forces of the victorious clief, Usibepu, were subsequently routed by the Usutus. British relations with the Transvaal, Basutoland and Zululand are in a most onfused and unsatisfactory state.

FRANCE.

The dread news of the death of Gambetta, the master genius of the Republic, startled France on the first day of the year. Followed, as it was alby the loss of Chanzy, the most immediately, heroic soldier, it created a most painful impression. Hoping to profit by the vague feeling of uneasiness which pervaded French society, Prince Napoleou issued a manifesto dwelling upon the incapacity of the Government and the dis arliamentary parties, and referring to the plebia-tes by which the Empire had been sanctioned

ment introduced several crude measures, framed so He was arrested on January 16 and imprisened in the Conciergie until February 9, when the indictment against him quashed. His arrest, the subsequens proceedings against the Pretenders, and the severity of the sentences passed upon Prince Krapotkine and other Socialists afforded a practical proof of the immense loss sustained by the country in the death of Gambetta. The Duelere Ministry introduced in the Chamber of Deputies a bill aimed against all Pretenders and M. Floquet made a radical proposal for their immediate expulsion. On January 28 Premier Duclere and the Ministers of War and Marine resigned, being unwilling to accept the Deputies' Expulsion bill. M. Ferry declining to form a Ministry, M. Fallières, of the Department of the Interior, accepted the Premiership, M. Thi-baudin taking the War portfolio. M. Floquet's proposal was then rejected and M. Fabre's bill, prohibiting the Princes from filling any civil or military post and empowering the President to decree their expulsion at his discretion, was adopted as a compromise measure. The Senate passed on February 12 a substitute authorizing the banishment of a Prince who should be found guilty of pretentions endangering the existence of the State. The Deputies sent back a new measure, which was also rejected. The Ministry resigned in consequence of the action of the Senate, M. Ferry organized a new Ministry, recruiting it mainly from the Gambettist group. A law of 1834 was enforced and the Orleans Princes were deprived of their milliary rank without legislative action. This ignoble agitation, so unworthy of the dignity of the Republic, was thus brough to a close. The death of the Comte de Chambord at Frohsdorf on August 26 united the houses of Bourbon and Orleans in the person of the Comte de Paris.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS. bill, prohibiting the Princes from filling

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

The Ferry Ministry entered upon office with a vote of confidence of 368 to 93. It refused to make constitutional revision a Cabinet question and addressed itself to the reform of municipalities and to financial questions. The Minister of Finance brought forward a proposal for the conversion of 5 per cents into 4½ per cents, exempt from repayment for five years. The Deputies and Senate passed the bill, the Government pledging itself against further reductions for ten years. Notwithstanding the reduction of interest the financial situation in France has remained most unsatisfactory. In November M. Tirard was openly charged with concealing deficits in his budget. He found himself in such straits that he proposed that the Bauk of France, which was then allowed to issue 8640,000,000 in notes, should be released from all legal limitations. The Budget Committee agreed to raise the limit \$100,000,000. French revenue seems for once to have lost its elasticity. The expenditures have steadily increased and the Finance Minister is at his wit's end to balance the account. The revenues for the first half of the year were \$5,600,000 below the budget estimate. brought forward a proposal for the conversion of

FOREIGN SCHEMES AND INTRIGUES.

The energies of the Ministry have been devoted nainly to acts of aggression in distant quarters of the world. At the mouth of the Congo De Brazza, an Italian adventurer, has been supported by French influence in his attempt to contest the ground with Mr. Stanley, the agent of the Interground with Mr. Stanley, the agent of the Inter-national African Association, in which the King of the Belglans has interested himself. In Madagas-car several ports have been bombarded and cap-tured, after futile efforts on the part of officials of the Foreign Office in Paris to dragoon the repre-sentatives of the Hovas into signing a treaty recog-nizing a French protectorate over the northwestern part of the island. The arbitrary conduct of Ad-miral Pierre, at Tamatave, in arresting the Rey, Mr. Shaw, and in insulting British officials on shore and in the harbor involved a necessity for ample Mr. Shaw, and in insulting British officials on shore and in the harbor involved a necessity for ample amends to the Laberal Government at London, and financial compensation to the missionary. The Hovas have not been intimidated by these demonstrations on the coast, but have withrawn their troops into the interior. Military operations will be required if a conquest is attempted, unless the French can hire the Sakalavas to do their fighting for them.

In Tonquin war has been waged on a larger scale. On May 20; Captain Rivière, who for a year had occupied the citadel of Hanoi with a small garrison

which was garrisoned mainly by the roadmost No movement has yet been made in the direction of Bae-Ninh; and at Hué the French candidate on the throne has been assassinated. The Ferry Ministry has been supported by the Chamber of Deputies in this campaign of aggression by several strong votes

this campaign of aggression by several strong votes of confidence.

The position of France in Europe has been weakened by these foreign adventures, and also by the wanton insults effered to King Alfonso by the Paris mob. General Thibaudin resigned the Ministry of War in consequence of the latter incident, and General Campenou was appointed to succeed him. The subsequent withdrawal of M. Challemel-Lacour from the Ministry left the foreign portfolio in M. Ferry's hands, with M. Fallieres in the Interior Department. There are no signs of any political reaction against the Republic. The midsummer elections of Conseillers-Généraux resulted favorably, the Republicans carrying eighty out of ninety departments.

THE MILITARY EMPIRES.

Prince Bismarck has materially strengthened his position at Court and in the Parliaments during the year. Early in the spring he got rid of two assolates who were not working harmoniously with him. One was General Von Stosch, the head of the German navy, who had been one of the Emperor's confidential advisers since 1870; the other was General Von Kameke, who withdrew from the Ministry of War on account of differences of opinion in military matters. In April the Reichstag was startled by a message from the Emperor, counter-signed by the Chancellor, stating that legisla-lation for the benefit of the working classes must not be deferred, and that the budget for 1884 must lation for the benefit of the working classes must not be deferred, and that the budget for 1884 must be passed a year in advance, in order to leave the next session free for economic reforms. The Liberals were greatly disconcerted by this reserript, and their veteran leader, Herr von Bennigsen, apparently despairing of the constitutional tendencies of the time, retired from public life. The Reichstag adjourned after voting a biennal budget and 14 out of 21 bills discussed during the session, including one relating to a Workingmon's Illness Fund. The tobacco monopoly and the duties on wood were rejected. The biennial budget was the Chancellor's first great legislative success; the second was the Ecclesiastical bill, which passed the Prussian Landstag on June 30, by a vote of 224 to 107. Although the leader of the Centre declared that the Government must go further if it desured peace, this bill virtually repealed the May laws and brought the Cunturkampf to a close. The Vatican had reason for regarding it as a substantial triumph and the Catholic bishops speedily ordered vicars and candidates for the priesthood to return to Prussia. An extra session of the Reichstag was held in August and a treaty of commerce between Germany and Spaln was seneticed by a large majority. Berlin has recommerce between Germany and Spain was sanctioned by a large majority. Berlin has remained the diplomatic capital of the Continent, great attention being paid to the movements of the sovereigns and princes of the Balkan. Italy being admitted into the German-Austrian alliance, and Spain mitted into the cermina-American influence. On September 28, a grand National monument of the war of 1870 was unveiled in the Niederwald. The four-hundredth anniversary of Lather's birth was celebrated, not only in the Fatherland, but throughout the world.

was celebrated, not only in the Fatherland, but throughout the world.

The Czar was crowned on May 27, the ceremonies being prolonged until June 8. The preliminary proclamation was issued in February reciting the festivities in detail, so that the Nihilists had ample time in which to plot against him. No attempt was made to assassinate him, although he exposed himself freely in the presence of vast throngs in Moscow and St. Petersburg. The Nihilists were either intimidated by the series of State trials which preceded the coronation, or else were too refused in financial resources to resume operations. The ceremonies, while evoking an unmistakable demonstration of popular confidence in the sovereign, were not accompanied by concessions of any magnitate or any change in the reactionary policy adopted by the Court. M. de Giers has made myslerious visits to foreign capitals apparently for the purpose of discussing the future of the Balkan. There has been no remarkable development of Russian diplomacy during the year; put here has any set of agreement on the

frontiers. Mery has been approached, but has not been occupied, although a force of 15,000 men under General Camarove is said to be in readiness for active service among the Tekke-Turcomans.

The scene of race-conflict in the Dual Empire has been transferred from Bosmis to Croatia. The revival of the Magyar language policy, so obnoxious so the Slavs, was followed by nots at Agram and at other points. The revolt was quickly suppressed and the Hungarian symbols of authority were replaced in the Croatian capital and elsewhere, mobs being repeatedly dispersed by the army. The Tisza Cabinet having asserted the supremacy of the governing race, wisely compromised the esoutheon question, the bi-lingual inscriptions and exclusive language policy being discontinued. A bill legalizing marriages between Christians and Jews has been thrown out by the Upper House in Hungary.

MINOR EUROPEAN STATES.

King Alfonso has strengthened his position in Spain by allowing his Ministers to have freedom of action under the constitution and by accepting overtures from Berlin for a diplomatic alliance. Premier Sagasta reorganized the Ministry on January 8, retaining Martinez-Campos and Aguilar, and obtaining six recruits from various sections of the Libiral party. The King declined to interfere, saying that a constitutional monarch ought not to favor any party or faction. The Deputies decided in April to reduce the army expenses and Martinez-Campos offered his resignation. A Ministerial crisis was temporarily averted. In August there was a military uprising in the Province of Badajož, on the Portuguese frontier, the garrison proclaming a Republic with Ruiz Zorrila for President. The insurrection was speedily suppressed. The King visited Vienna and Berlin during September, and was appointed honorary colonel of a regiment of Uhlans stationed at Strasburg. This incident excited resentment in France, and the King was hooted and insulted by the Paris mob. President Grèvy made an informal apology, but the King set out at once for Madrid, where he was received with great rejoicing. Diplomatic remonstrances were interrupted by the downfall of the Ministry, the Dynastic Left refusing to support Sagasta. Posada-Herrara accepted the Premiership and succeeded in uniting the groups of the Liberal party. Prince Bismarck followed up his diplomatic success by sending the Crown Prince to Spain, where he was cordially received.

In Italy specie payments were resumed on April favor any party or faction. The Deputies decided

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In Italy specie payments were resumed on April 19. A gold balance of \$93,500,000 had been accumulated and there was only a slight demand for coin in place of paper. There have been minor changes in the Ministry, but Depretis has remained at the head of the Government. The Foreign Office succeeded early in the year in forming a diplomatic combination with Germany and Austria. The Pope while gaining ground in Germany has not made any advance in Italian polities. The Government, meanwhile, has obtained the support of the Right as well as the Left. Minghetti and his Conservative associates have agreed to vote with Depretis and

white gaining ground in Germany has not made any white gaining ground in Germany has not made any many that the support of the Right as well as the Left. Mingletti and his Conservative associates have agreed to vote with Depretis and the Liberals, the two sides of the Chamber having coalesced. The result of the extension of the surface of the coalesced of the c

volcanic eruptions of extraordinary magnitude, in-volving the destruction of many villages and an immense loss of life. An island 3,000 feet high was submerged, a sea wave 100 feet high was formed and devastation was wrought on land and

BRAZIL AND SPANISH AMERICA.

In Brazil there is a steady advance in the direction of Liberalism, Senator Lafayette Rodrigues having completed a new ministry from the advanced section of the party. In the great province of Ceara measures have been taken for the emancipation of slaves.

The demands of Chile for the absolute session of Peruvian Territory have been accepted by General Iglesias as provisional President. A protocol was signed in May and a treaty was subsequently

was signed in May and a treaty was subsequently negotiated. If the Assembly to be elected on January 13 sustains General Iglesias, the Government will be recognized by the United States and European powers.

The centennial anniversary of the birth of Bolivar has been celebrated at Panama and in the South American States with great enthusiasm. In Equador there has been a formidable revolution. The completion of the Panama Canal is announced for 1888, or possibly 1887. Mexico has settled the Guatemala boundary question, and negotiated commercial treaties with Germany and other powers. Its creaty with the United States has not yet been acted upon by the Legislatures of either nation.

In Haytia revolution broke out on March 27, when Miragoane was captured by a small body of insurgen s. This town and Jacmel were subse-

when Miragoane was captured by a small body of insurger s. This town and Jacmel were subsequently bombarded by the Government troops, but the revolt has not yet been suppressed. In Cuba measures are ma uring whereby 200,000 slaves will be emancipated in 1888.

NECROLOGY OF THE YEAR.

The closing moments of 1882 witnessed the death agony of one of the world's greatest citizens On the first morning of what was then the New, but is now the Old Year, Paris learned, with startling suddenness, that Gambetta was dead, and repeated with reverent emotion, or else with nervous trepidation, his last words: "I am lost; it is useless to dissemble; but I have suffered so much that it will be a deliverance." He was pre-eminently the organizing genius of the Third Republic, and almost the only heroic figure of the Revolution which followed Sedan. Even the malignant spirit of political faction did not venture to depreciate the magnitude of his patriotic services, albeit it persisted. with morbid curiosity, in prying into the dishonorable secrets of his private life. A greater tribute to his character than the costly funeral pageant was the period of giddiness and timidity which followed his death. When ministers were startled by the escapade of so contemptible an adversary as Prince Plon-Plon, and when legislators, in panic-terror, were fighting with the shadow of Orleanist usurpation, the world knew that France had met with an irretrievable loss in the death of a leader, who had inspired public faith in the permanence of existing

In marked contrast with the painful impression produced by Gambetta's death was the indifference with which the Comte de Chambord, the last of the Bourbons to represent the principle of reigning by Divine right, was regarded in France and in Europe. With similar tokens of public neglect passed away Prince Gortschakoff, one of the master-diplomatists of modern times, his closing years embittered by poignant regrets that he had enabled Prince Bisnarck to become so great. Greece was deprived of Coumoundoros, its most distinguished statesman; the Coumoundoros, its most distinguished statesman; the German Court mourned Prince Frederick Charles, the Emperor's brother and contidential advisor; Great Britain lost the Duke of Marlborough, Ashton W. Dilke, Hugh Law and Lord Overstone; Austra-Hungary Radoz and Wimpfen; Spain Cordova and Barca; the East Obeidallah, Abd-e!-Kader and Sir Salur Jung; the Sandwich Islands, E. H. Allen; Madagascar its Queen, and Anam two of of its Emperors, one of them a foreign puppet, American public life has also been dapleted by

not to be credited to any country. In his death a bad causes loses an original thinker and an industrious organises.

In the intellectual world lying outside the state-craft and political affairs of nations, the stock of human genius, never by any means too large, has been seriously reduced during the year. Richard Wagner is the first name to be mentioned in the order of importance, not only because his genius was animated and inspired by the breath of an originality that was unique, but also because his art has exercised an irresistible fascination over men's intelligence and imagination. The second place belongs to Ivan Turgeness, who in satirizing the follies of Russian society gave a name to one of the most mysterious movements of modern times, and yet was neither a reformer nor an agitator, but a literary artist of extraordinary power. The subordinate positions must be divided indiscriminately among science, letters and art, Science has lost Sir Charles William Siemens, William Spottiswoods and Swen Nilson; literature, Henri Martin, J. R. Green, Jules Sandeau, Laboulaye, Louis Viardot, Jules Amigues, Henri Conscience, Dutton Cook, Mayne Reid, William Chambers, George W. Greene, William M. Baker; sculpture, Jean Baptiste Clesinger, Clark Mills, Martin Milmore; painting and caricature, Gustave Dorê, Pierre August Cot and Richard Doyle; music, Flotow, Tamberlik, Mario and Marie Litta; the stage, Junius Brutus Booth, Charles R. Fhorne, Charles Backus and Mrs. Boniface.

The great professions have also been deprived Boniface.

The great professions have also been deprived of many of their most distinguished

The great professions have also been deprived of many of their most distinguished representatives. Among the soldiers are Chanzy, the only General in the reformed Republican army of France even remotely suspected of having genius; Sir William Fenwick Williams, who made the heroic defense of Kars; Suleimau Pacha, who hurled the Turkish army against Shipka Pass, and Generals Ord and Humphreys of the American crawy Among the veterans of the Pacha, who hurled the Turkish army against Shipka Pass, and Generals Ord and Humphreys of the American army. Among the veterans of the sea are Admiral Collinson, who bore a prominent part in the search for Sir John Franklin; Count de Persano, who commanded the allied fleet against Austria in 1866, and Rear-Admirals J. R. Sands, B. F. Sands, Middleton, Turner and Trenchard. The law has lost Sir George Jessel, Sir Charles Bowyer, George Sharswood, James Connors, John McKeon and Lewis J. Delatieid; and medicine, J. Marion Sims, George M. Beard, Surgeon-General Barnes and William Farr. Theology and the churches have lost Bishop Colenso, Dean Boyd of Exeter, Dean Connor of Windsor, Bishop Talbot, Bishop Pinkney, Dr. Ferdinand C. Ewer, Cardinal Matte; Cardinal Bonnechose, Archbishop Purcell, Archbishop Wood, Bishop Quinlan, Father Thomas N. Burke; Bishop Peck, Lyman H. Atwater, Dr. E. F. Hatfield, Daniel De Vinne and Thomas D. Anderson. Great havoc has also been made among the educators, the necrology including Paul A. Chadbourne, Evangelinus A. Sophoeles, Charles E. Anthon, Charles P. Krauth, S. S. Greene, Alonzo Crittenden, Edward E. Johnson, Benjamin N. Martin, William A. Norton, James B. Thompson and H. J. S. Smith. Journalism has lost Louis Veuillot, Hugh J. Hastings, George Dawson and C. C. Fulton.

Although low in this artificial list, yet high in the esteem and affections of New-Yorkers, occurs the honored name of Peter Cooper; and with his is

were valued at \$3,500. There was no insurance. Mr. Cox said that the report of Captain Hawkins's extreme poverty was probably incorrect. He had been with the firm many years, and they had often advanced him farge sums of money, which he always paid premptly and in full. He was building a house at Stony Brook, and probably left some means.

URGING ABSTINENCE AND PROHIBITION.

Twelve hundred persons were present at the mass-meeting of the Manhattan Temperance Association in Cooper Union Hall, vesterdary afternoon. The speakers were the Rev. Phillip Germond, of the Jane Street Methodist Episcopal Church, and "Brick" Pomeroy. The latter urged total abstinence as necessary for personal safety, and prohibition as necessary for the security of law. He believed, he said, that the present movement was the beginning of a revolution in popular sentiment on the liquor question, and he compared the situation to that of the abolitionists before the war.

The Rev. Howard Henderson, of Jersey City, at

the liquor question, and he compared the situation to that of the abolitionists before the war.

The Rev. Howard Henderson, of Jersey City, at the meeting of the American Temperance Union, held at Chickering Hall, yesterday afternoon, said:
The object in establishing society was the protection of life and the advancement of human happliness. Whatever is found to be working an injury to that society is an evil. The crying evil of the times is intemperance. How is it to be put down! I can see no other remedy but positive production. The law which I would have adopted by every State in the Union is this: "Thou shall not self liquors in this State except at the risk of imprisonment for life." (Applause) Who does not know of the description strong drink has made among the hinbilinates of this carth! Give me the cross bones of its victims and I could build a ladder to the milky way. Give me the mrney spent in its purchase and I would wall your city with gold, pave your streets with agrate, and turn Central Park into a grand conservatory, concaining the Farest treasures of field, forest and stream. We are living in a fact age, but are we centented with its speed! Give a Yankee a stroke of lightning to ride and he would want a pair of spurs to hasten its speed.

W. Forbes, the London temperance advocate, who

W. Forbes, the London temperance advocate, who has been lecturing in this country, will sail for England on Wednesday.

JERSEY CITY GAS COMPANIES AT WAR.

The Consumers' Gas Company, a corporation recently organized in Jersey City to enter into competition with the two existing gas companies, the Jersey City and the People's, and to furnish gas at greatly reduced rates, has met with its first lead obstacle. The Board of Aldermen recently pass at an ordinance authorizing the Consumers' Company, of which ex-Congressman Orestes Cleveland is President, to construct gas works, lay pipes, and do everything necessary for going into active operation, Ex-Governor Bedle, as counsel for the existing companies, has applied to Judge Knapp for a writ of co tiorari o remove he ordinance into the Supreme Court. It is asserted, on the part of the plaintiff, that the Aldermen had no right to pass such an ordinance because it is really a covert contract which will compel the city to take its supply of gas from the new company for a period of twenty-five years at \$1.50 per 1,000 The Consumers' Gas Company, a corporation refor a period of twenty-five years at \$150 per 1,000 feet. Counsel for the Consumers' Company denies that there is any contract expressed or implied, in the ordinance, or that the new company intends to do business in any but an open, legitimate manner.

A MURDERER OF ELDERLY WOMEN.

A MURDERER OF ELDERLY WOMEN.

Berlia Correspondence of The London Globe.

The sensational proceedings against Dickhoff, the man convicted of having brutally murdered and robbed two miserly old women, laid bare such an incredible degradation among a certain class of criminal outlaws, and their ostensibly respectable accompilees, that Paul Lindau, the essayist, has launched upon a congenial theme by describing his recent experiences among the seum of society. To ludge from his graphic describton, fully confirming the startling disclosures made during Dickhoff's trial, Berlin seems comparatively to possess a larger community of regular thieves and seconderly of Berlin is the intimacy apparently existing between the detectives and secret police with the persons whom they are set to watch. Lindau, in his vagabond researches, carried on of course in strict disguise, found them congregating together on most amicable terms. The miscreants, many of whom have to avoid the light of day, have their own cafes, restaurants, hotels, and clubs, as which they may be found by their friends, but seldom by the police told off in search of them. Dickhoff, whose guilt was proved only by a strong chain of circumstantial evidence several years after the committai of his barbarous acts, had until the moment of his formal arrast, never been in open conflict with the laws. He had, however, been long engaged in a determined war against order and public safety. His favorite art, in which he attained almost to perfection, was to cultivate the acquisitantee of cliderly women, living alone, and known to be possessed of some means. It was proved in court that he used to worm out their secrets by the most subtle flattery and cunning, until the very moment of becoming their surferer.